SUPERMAN AND SUPERGIRL in
ACTION COMICS
SUPERMAN NATIONAL COMICS
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12¢
NO. 375
APR.
REG. U.S. PAT. OFF.
WHO AM I?
WHERE AM I?
WHY AM I WEARING THIS STRANGE COSTUME?
FEATURING...
SUPERMAN in "The BIG FORGET!"

Free BOOK TELLS YOU HOW YOU CAN BUILD A RUGGED BODY

COMMAND RESPECT AND ADMIRATION

FEAR NO MAN

Modern scientific methods make it easy and quick —without time consuming, exhausting exercises— without expensive equipment—in the privacy of your own home.

Yes, no matter what shape you're in now,—skinny or fat, flabby or muscular—in a few short weeks you can look into the mirror and see the amazing change.
4 inches more of chest muscle, 3 inches more of arm muscle, a He-Man Body to be Proud of. Strength, Endurance, Pride, Virility. Take advantage of this free—No Obligation Offer.
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Learn My True Tested Secrets of Strength

You can be the proud owner of a wonderful new body just like thousands of others who have taken advantage of this offer.

How To Gain Up To 50 lbs. Of Mighty Muscles!

How to LOSE up to 50 lbs. of UGLY DANGEROUS FAT YOURS FREE A $5 VALUE! World-Famous PICTURE-PACKED ABC COURSES WITH ELEVEN TEST EXERCISES SHOWING:

1. How to Develop 16 to 18½ INCH BIG ARMS Powerful enough to land a knock-out blow fast.
2. How to build a 45 to 52 INCH HEROIC CHEST Housing TIRELESS LUNGS FOR ENDURANCE in Work, Sports, for ATTRACTING GIRLS.
3. How to Mold a BROAD MUSCLE-PACKED Back and WONDER-WIDE SUPER-MAN SHOULDERS Tapering to a SLIM PUNCH-PROOF WAIST.
4. How to Develop LEGS with MARATHON ENDURANCE.

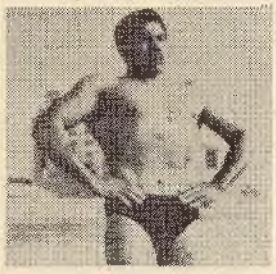
How to become a FEARLESS SELF-DEFENSE FIGHTER OVER-POWERING ANY BULLY TWICE YOUR SIZE!

I GAINED 60 LBS. of Shapely MIGHTY MUSCLES

Before Mailing coupon I was a 125 lb. 6 Ft. skinny weakling, says John Sill I added 7 inches to MY CHEST, 3½ INCHES TO EACH ARM, No, Pal, you don't have to be a chicken-chested skinny weakling like I was only a few weeks ago.

"I LOST 30 LBS. OF dangerous UGLY FAT"

4 inches off my WAIST says Felipe Mendeza



"Look at me NOW! I have MIGHTY MUSCLES, added 7 inches to my CHEST, 3 inches on each arm"! NO! I don't care how fat and flabby you are. All I want is minutes a day in your home to make you over by the same method.

This AMAZING NEW BOOK in colors YOURS FREE if you mail COUPON NOW

Jam-full with 120 PHOTOS OF STRONG MEN and CHAMPIONS once WEAKER than you. Scores of How-to-do-it Pictures show you how YOU can quickly and easily achieve STRENGTH, SPEED AND ENDURANCE. Don't let this once-in-a lifetime opportunity get away from you. Mail the coupon for all eleven world-famous picture-packed ABC test lessons—and amazing FREE Photo Book of Famous Strong Men. Do it NOW!

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I enclose Twenty-Five Cents for mailing and handling. I am under no obligation. I'm checking everything I need to give me the kind of body I want.

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I want to gain ..... lbs. (fill in). Triple my strength .....
I want to streamline my body, get rid of flabby fat.....
I want to add inches of muscle to my ..... arms ..... chest
..... shoulders ..... powerful legs ..... slim Waist .....
I want to become a winning athlete..... I want new pep.

Name ..... Age .....
(Do not mail coupon if under 14 years of age)
Address .....
City ..... State ..... Zip .....

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SUPERMAN
AS CLARK KENT, I BEAT THAT PHONEY!
CLARK KENT FIGHTS... AND DEFEATS... CLARK KENT! THEN HE CHANGES TO HIS SUPERMAN IDENTITY... BEFORE WITNESSES! WHY? IS HE ACTUALLY GIVING AWAY HIS GREATEST SECRET... TO A GANG OF SPIES? WHY NOT GET THE ANSWER BY READING...
"THE BIG FORGET!
NOW IT'S TIME TO SWITCH TO SUPERMAN!

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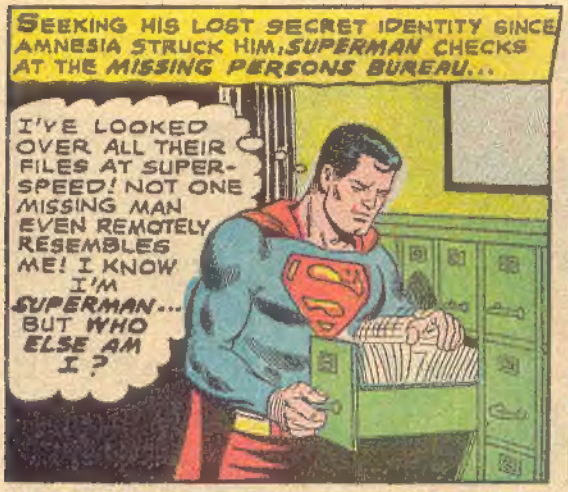
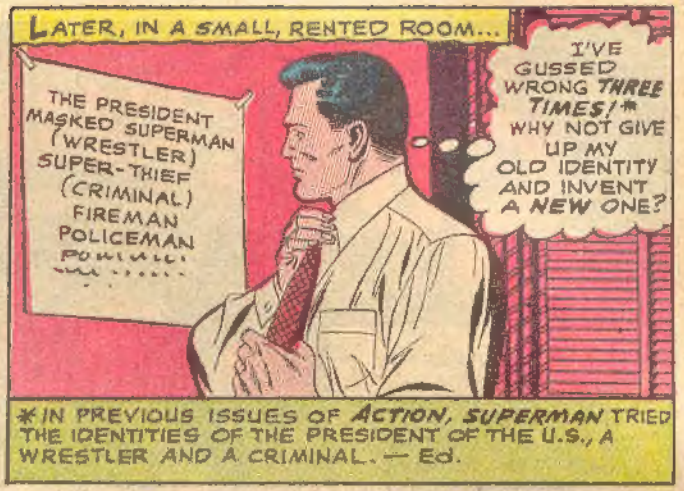
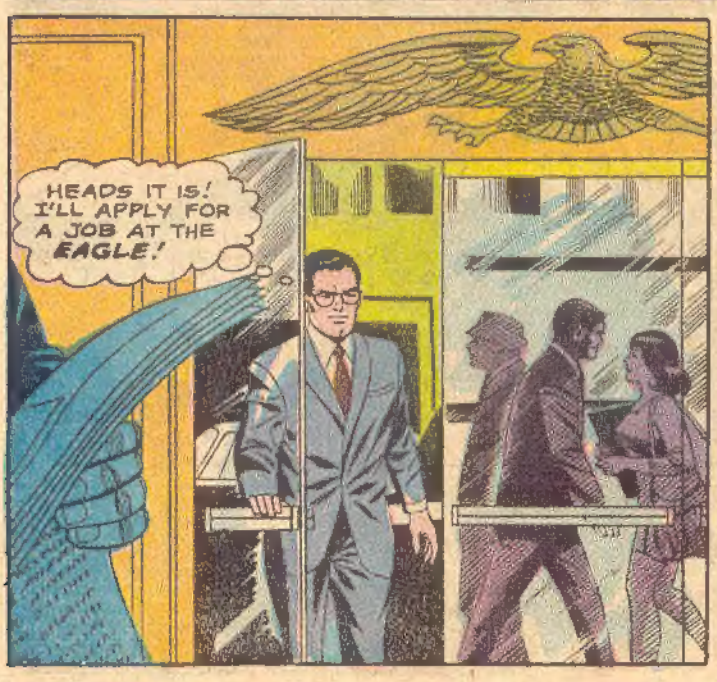

SEEKING HIS LOST SECRET IDENTITY SINCE AMNESIA STRUCK HIM, SUPERMAN CHECKS AT THE MISSING PERSONS BUREAU...
I'VE LOOKED OVER ALL THEIR FILES AT SUPER-SPEED! NOT ONE MISSING MAN EVEN REMOTELY RESEMBLES ME! I KNOW I'M SUPERMAN... BUT WHO ELSE AM I?



*IN PREVIOUS ISSUES OF ACTION, SUPERMAN TRIED THE IDENTITIES OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE U.S., A WRESTLER AND A CRIMINAL. — Ed.

DEEP WITHIN THE RECESSES OF THE MAN OF MIGHT'S MIND, A SUBCONSCIOUS MEMORY STIRS, CAUSING HIM TO ADOPT A GUISE EXACTLY LIKE HIS OLD ALTER-EGO...
IF I COULD GET A JOB AS A REPORTER, IT WOULD MAKE A GREAT COVER! THESE GLASSES I BOUGHT WILL GIVE ME THE LOOK OF A WRITER!

LATER...
DAILY PLANET
WHICH OF THESE TWO NEWSPAPERS SHALL I TRY?
OH, WELL... I'LL FLIP A COIN! HEADS I TAKE THE EAGLE... TAILS, THE PLANET!
METROPOLIS
EAGLE



BUT WHEN THE DISGUISED ACTION ACE WALKS IN...
I'D LIKE TO APPLY FOR A POSITION AS A REPORTER...
WHAT KIND OF A PUT-ON IS THIS, BUDDY?
PERSONNEL MANAGER
2

HEY, LOOK! THE NERVE OF PERRY WHITE! HE SENT A SPY HERE FROM THE DAILY PLANET TO APPLY FOR A JOB! HA, HA!
SPY? I-I DON'T UNDERSTAND! I'M CAL LEWIS, AND...
SURE, YOU ARE... AND I'M CHARLES DE GAULLE!
NEXT TIME, TRY DISGUISING YOURSELF! GROW A BEARD!
YOU'RE A RIOT, KENT! HA, HA!

OKAY... END OF JOKE! GO BACK AND TELL PERRY WE ENJOYED THE VISIT FROM HIS STAR REPORTER, CLARK KENT!
HUH? THIS IS CRAZY! WITH THESE GLASSES, I MUST BE A DOUBLE FOR KENT!

BUT I'VE MET KENT SEVERAL TIMES! SO HE CAN'T BE MY SECRET IDENTITY... OR CAN HE? LET'S SEE WHAT HE SAYS WHEN I WALK IN ON HIM!

BUT IN THE PLANET OFFICES...
BACK SO SOON, CLARK?
YOU SAID YOU WERE TAKING A WEEK'S VACATION! CHANGED YOUR MIND, EH?
WHY... UH... YES!
LOIS LANE AND PERRY WHITE RECOGNIZE ME AS CLARK!

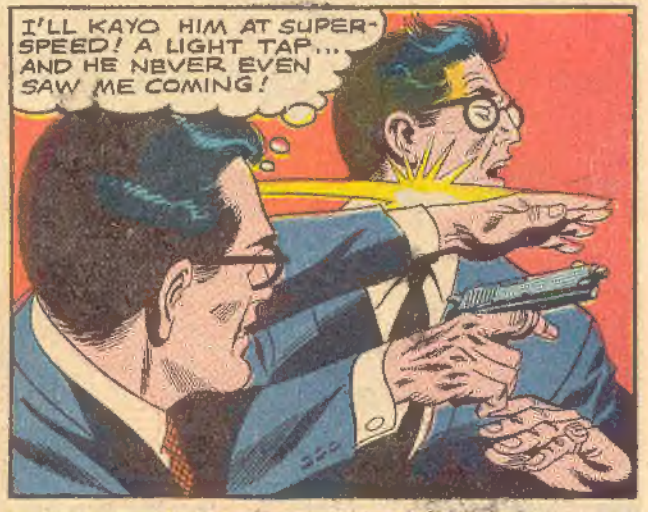
THEY COULDN'T BE FOOLED BY A SUPERFICIAL RESEMBLANCE! IT SEEMS I'VE ACTUALLY STUMBLED ON MY REAL SECRET IDENTITY... CLARK KENT, REPORTER FOR THE DAILY PLANET!

BUT IF I'M CLARK, WHO'S THE GUY WHO'S BEEN IMPERSONATING ME? A SKILLFUL MAKEUP ARTIST, I'D GUESS...
AH! HE LEFT THIS RING OF KEYS BEHIND! AND MY ADDRESS IS ON IT!
276-125 APT. 51
SHORTLY, AT HIS APARTMENT...
HMM... THE PHONEY CLARK OBVIOUSLY TOOK OVER MY DIGS, TOO!
BUT I'D BETTER MAKE SURE I AM CLARK! I'LL CHECK THE PLACE WITH MY X-RAY VISION!
THAT CLINCHES IT... A HIDDEN CLOSET! OBVIOUSLY, I KEEP MY SUPER-ROBOTS IN THERE FOR EMERGENCY USE... AND MY COLLECTION OF SUPER-SOUVENIRS, TOO!
DID ONE OF MY ROBOTS TAKE MY PLACE AS CLARK? NO... ROBOTS DON'T SMOKE! AND THERE ARE CIGARETTE BUTTS IN THAT ASHTRAY!
I'LL GET SOMETHING TO EAT WHILE I TRY TO PUZZLE IT OUT!
GREAT MOONS OF KRYPTON! WHAT'S THIS IN THE FREEZER COMPARTMENT?
MICROFILM... CODES... A TRANSISTORIZED RADIO TRANSMITTER! THE OTHER "CLARK" IS A SPY!
4

AS CLARK STARTS DECIPHERING THE SPY CODE, THERE IS A SUDDEN INTERRUPTION...
MY SPY DOUBLE... YOU'RE THE IMPOSTOR WHO TOOK MY PLACE!
CLARK KENT... THE REAL ONE! BUT YOU SHOULD BE DEAD! WHEN I KNOCKED YOU OUT THAT NIGHT, AT THE DAILY PLANET... *
* HOW COULD ANYONE KNOCK OUT CLARK, WHO IS THE INVULNERABLE SUPERMAN? KEEP READING... ALL WILL BE EXPLAINED IN TIME.– Ed.

"...I SENT YOU TO YOUR DOOM IN A HELICOPTER, BY REMOTE CONTROL!"
HA, HA! HE'LL CRASH IN THE DESERT AND BE KILLED! THEN I'LL DISGUISE MYSELF AS HIM AND TAKE HIS PLACE AT THE PLANET!

BUT I GUESS THE BLASTED REMOTE-CONTROL DEVICE WAS DEFECTIVE, AND YOU LANDED SAFELY! I'D BETTER CALL MY TWO AIDES I LEFT DOWNSTAIRS...
HMMM... WHAT AN OPPORTUNITY TO TURN THE TABLES ON THIS BOZO! I'LL IMPERSONATE HIM!
ZERO-ZERO CALLING ONE-TWO AND ONE-THREE...


I'LL KAYO HIM AT SUPER-SPEED! A LIGHT TAP... AND HE NEVER EVEN SAW ME COMING!

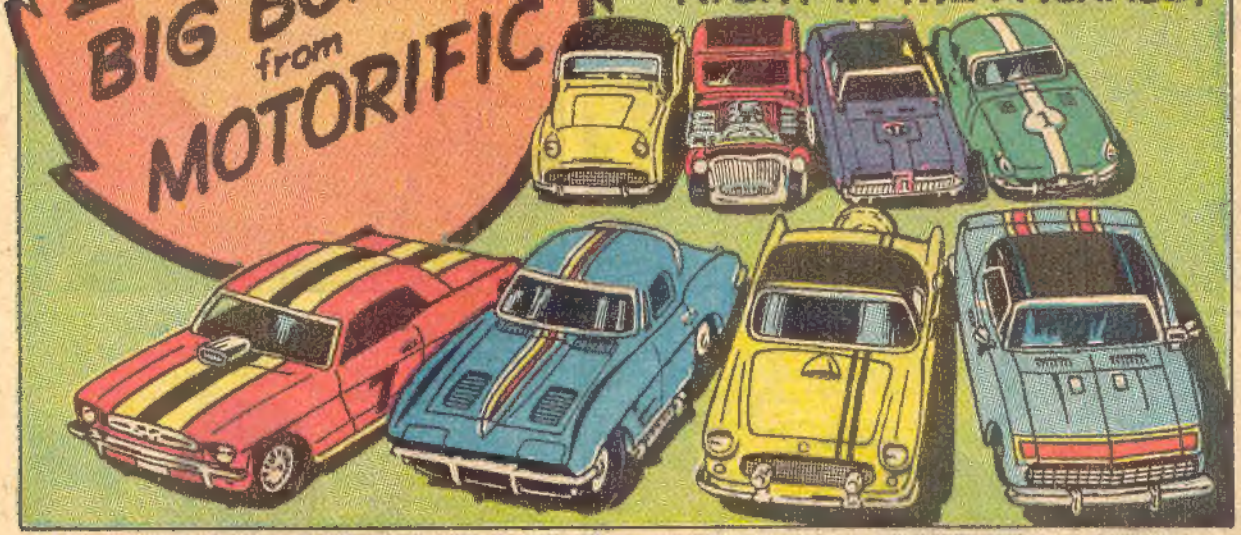
BY PRESSING THIS NERVE IN THE PHONEY'S NECK, I CAN MAKE SURE HE STAYS BLACKED OUT WHILE I TAKE HIS PLACE!

WHEN THE OTHER TWO SPIES ARRIVE...
KENT SHOWED UP... ALIVE! BUT I SLUGGED HIM! DON'T YOU THINK WE SHOULD INTERROGATE HIM WHEN HE WAKES UP?
RIGHT, ZERO-ZERO! WE'LL HELP YOU LUG HIM TO THE ROOF FOR OUR PICK-UP!

BUT ON THE ROOF...
STRANGE... I FIGURED THEY HAD A 'COPTER UP HERE... BUT THERE'S NOTHING!
READY... INFLATE BALLOONS FROM COMPRESSED HELIUM CARTRIDGES!
HISSSS
HISSSS
WALT'S WIENERS
...FLY UP UNDER MY OWN POWER! AH! THE FIRST BALLOON BURST AS IT REACHED OUR DESTINATION... THE HATCH OF THAT ADVERTISING BLIMP! THEY'LL THINK MY BALLOON BURST, TOO!
YOU'LL HAVE TO RELEASE EXTRA HELIUM IN YOUR BALLOON, ZERO-ZERO, SO IT'LL LIFT YOUR DOUBLE LOAD!
BUT I HAVE NO BALLOON! HOWEVER, SINCE IT'S A DARK NIGHT, I CAN JUST...
IN THE GONDOLA, CLARK COMES FACE-TO-FACE WITH THE SPY-CHIEF...
GREAT GALAXIES! HE'S A... I MEAN... SHE'S A GIRL!
SO YOU BUNGLED THE KENT KILLING, EH, ZERO-ZERO? YOU CAN EXPLAIN YOUR BLUNDER WHILE WE HEAD OUT TO SEA!
CONTINUED ON 2ND PAGE FOLLOWING

EXTRA EXTRA BIG BONUS from MOTORIFIC®

BUY ANY OF THESE CUSTOM, HOT MOTORIFIC CARS, AND GET A BONUS ACCESSORY-- RIGHT IN THE PACKAGE!

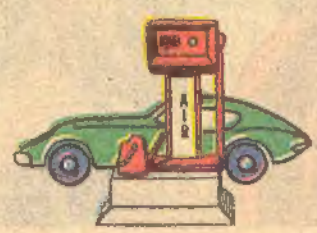


BACK ROW: TRIUMPH TR-3 / FORD HOT ROD / MERCURY COUGAR / JAGUAR XKE FASTBACK
FRONT ROW: FORD MUSTANG / CORVETTE STING RAY / FORD T-BIRD CLASSIC / CHEVROLET CAMARO

CUSTOM CAR AND **GAS PUMP**

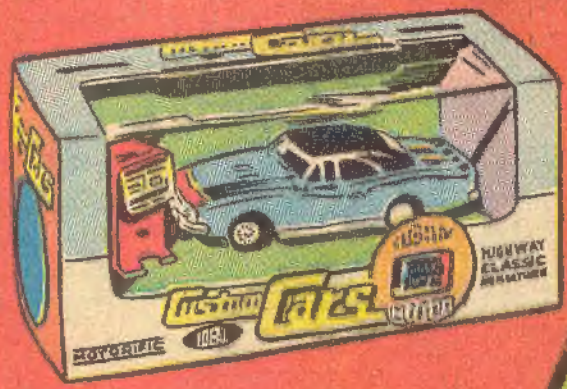
CUSTOM CAR AND **OIL RACK**

CUSTOM CAR AND **AIR PUMP**

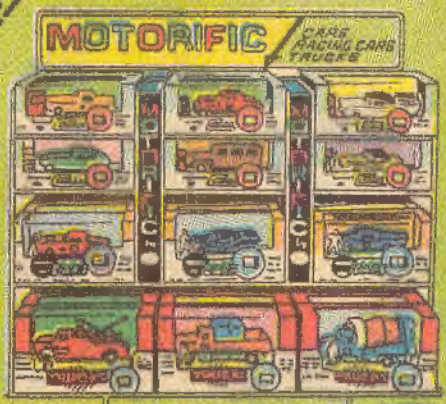


CUSTOM CAR AND **TIRE RACK**

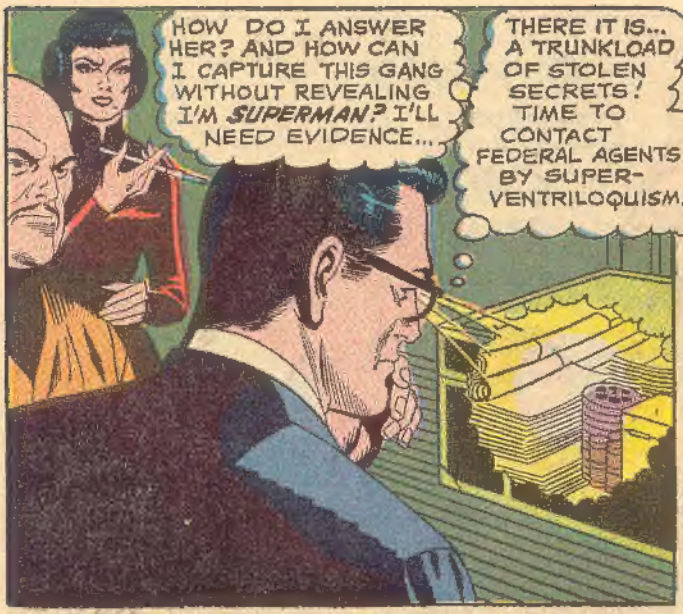
EACH SET COMES WITH THE CAR OF YOUR CHOICE, THE NEW BONUS ACCESSORY, AND A HIGH-TORQUE MOTORIFIC MOTOR.



LOOK FOR THIS MOTORIFIC DISPLAY CENTER AT YOUR FAVORITE TOY STORE NOW!



IT'S MOTORIFIC, IT'S EXTRA EXTRA TERRIFIC... IT'S IDEAL


HOW DO I ANSWER HER? AND HOW CAN I CAPTURE THIS GANG WITHOUT REVEALING I'M SUPERMAN? I'LL NEED EVIDENCE...
THERE IT IS... A TRUNKLOAD OF STOLEN SECRETS! TIME TO CONTACT FEDERAL AGENTS BY SUPER-VENTRILOQUISM!

SUPERMAN CALLING! I'VE FOUND A SPY RING'S HEADQUARTERS IN A DISGUISED BLIMP, HEADING OUT TO SEA! HAVE ARMED SHIP WAITING FOR CAPTURE!
...I'LL KEEP SENDING DIRECTIONS AT FREQUENT INTERVALS!
SUPERMAN'S VOICE... COMING THROUGH OUR INTERCOM SYSTEM!

OUT WITH IT... HOW DID YOU MANAGE TO BUNGLE KENT'S MURDER? AND WHEN HE SHOWED UP ALIVE, WHY DIDN'T YOU GUN HIM DOWN?
I MUST STALL FOR TIME UNTIL THE F.B.I. CAN MOVE IN! HMM... I KNOW HOW TO GRAB THESE SPIES' ATTENTION!

I SPOTTED KENT HEADING FOR HIS APARTMENT! THEN I REALIZED WHAT AN OPPORTUNITY I'D MISSED BEFORE ...SO I WENT OUT AND BOUGHT THIS COSTUME I'M WEARING UNDER MY SUIT!
A SUPERMAN OUTFIT? WHAT FOR?

KENT IS SUPERMAN'S BEST FRIEND! HE PROBABLY KNOWS HIS BUDDY'S SECRET IDENTITY!
CLEVER... PROCEED WITH YOUR PLAN, ZERO-ZERO!
SO I'LL LET HIM THINK I'M SUPERMAN... AND TRICK HIM INTO GIVING AWAY THAT SECRET!

WHAT'S THIS? SUPERMAN?... IS THAT REALLY HIM?
I'LL PROVE I AM! WITH MY X-RAY VISION, I'LL PICK THE FOUR ACES OUT OF THIS DECK OF CARDS... IN SECONDS!

ALL OUR ESPIONAGE AGENTS ARE TRAINED IN SLEIGHT-OF-HAND! ZERO-ZERO IS PRETENDING TO USE SUPER-POWERS, FOR KENT'S BENEFIT!
I'LL LET HER KEEP THINKING THAT! I DON'T WANT HER TO KNOW I REALLY HAVE X-RAY VISION!
GOT TO SHAKE THE COBWEBS OUT OF MY BRAIN! I WAS AT KENT'S APARTMENT NOW I'M IN THE BLIMP... WITH SUPERMAN! HOW...?
IF YOU'RE STILL DOUBTFUL, I'LL BLOW MY SUPER-BREATH OUT THIS BACK WINDOW... LIKE A ROCKET BLAST! WHOOSH!
PERFECT TIMING! I SPOTTED THE MOVEMENT OF THE CLOUDS, SHOWING A LIGHT WIND WAS HEADING THIS WAY! BUT WITHOUT A BOOST FROM MY SUPER-BREATH, IT WOULDN'T HAVE BEEN STRONG ENOUGH TO BUDGE THIS GAS-BAG!
UFF!
CLEVER OF ZERO-ZERO! HE SAW THE CLOUDS COMING AND KNEW WE'D BE HIT BY A STRONG GUST OF WIND... SO HE TOOK ADVANTAGE OF IT TO FAKE A SUPER-BREATH STUNT, BY PRETENDING TO BLOW THROUGH THE WINDOW!
GOOD! I PROPELLED THE BLIMP BACK TO U.S. TERRITORIAL WATERS... JUST IN TIME TO MEET THE FEDERAL AGENTS ON THAT CUTTER BELOW! WE'RE READY FOR THE KILL!

CONTINUED ON PAGE ... AS FOLLOWS

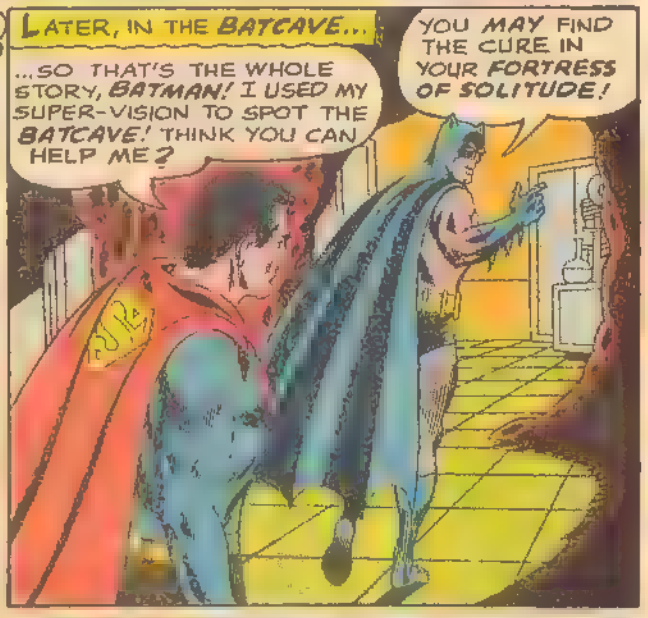
DC
THE
ARING
GIANT
THE
LASSIC
GIANT
DC Special
25¢
JUNE
GIANT
25¢
the FLASH
MAY
DOOMS DAY FLASH
BOWLESS UNIFORM
SADLY DAY FLASH RAN AWAY FROM HIMSELF!
O-DAY FOR THE FLASH
DIABOLICAL DAY FLASH ASSUMED A NEW IDENTITY
DISASTROUS DAY FLASH SHRUNK IN SIZE!
BOTH ON SALE FEB. 13th

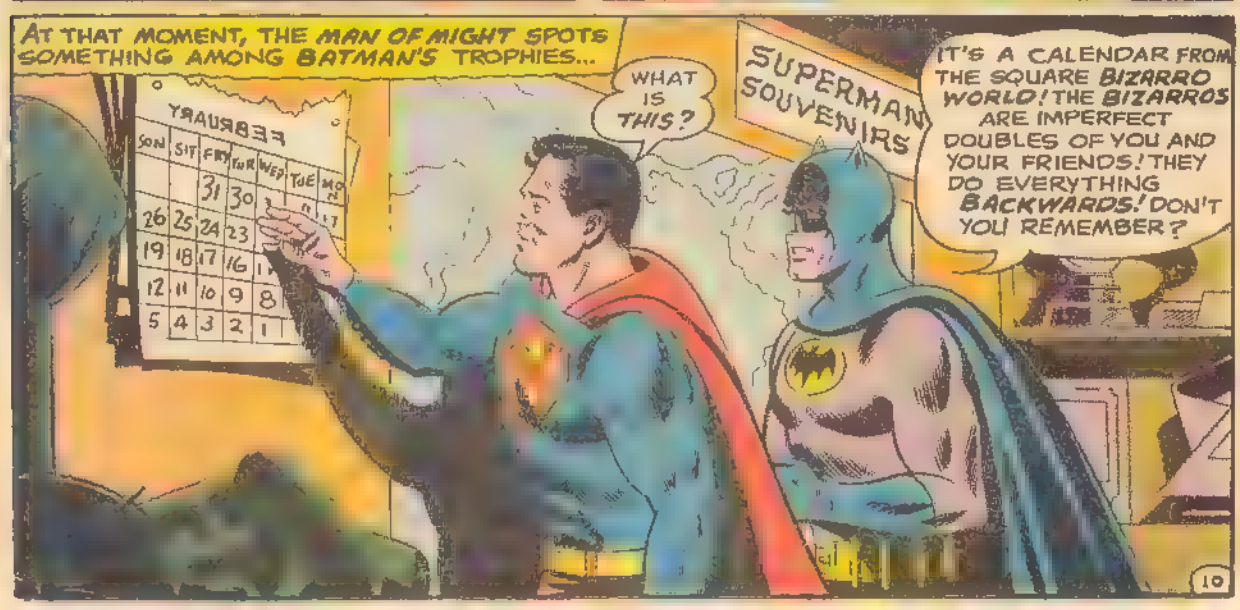
WHOOSH
BUT THEY WON'T SPOT THIS SUPER-TRICK OF MINE! I'LL USE MY HEAT VISION TO PUNCTURE THIS KING-SIZE BALLOON!
OUR BLIMP SPRANG A LEAK! WE'RE LOSING ALTITUDE! HOLD ON.. WHAT'S THAT SHIP BELOW?
A COAST-GUARD CUTTER, AND I'LL BET THOSE ARE F.B.I. MEN ABOARD!
QUICK! OPEN THE BOMB BAY AND DUMP OUT ALL THE EVIDENCE AGAINST US!
BUT, QUICKER THAN THE EYE CAN FOLLOW, A SPEEDING FORM FLASHES OUT OF THE GONDOLA, AND.
THIS EVIDENCE WON'T SINK AT SEA! I'LL RETURN IT TO THE TRUNK, IN SECONDS, AND IT WILL SINK THAT SPY RING!
SOON, AS THE PUNCTURED BLIMP SETTLES ON THE WATER..
WE'LL NAB THOSE SPIES RED-HANDED, WITH THE EVIDENCE!
WHAT EVIDENCE, GENTLEMEN? YOU'RE WELCOME TO SEARCH, IF YOU LIKE! WE'RE ONLY HONEST CITIZENS ON A PLEASURE FLIGHT IN MY PRIVATE BLIMP!
9

DO TELL? THEN WHAT'S IN THIS TRUNK--A SHUFFLEBOARD SET?
IDIOTS! DIDN'T I TELL YOU TO DUMP ALL THAT EVIDENCE?

THOSE SPIES WILL HAVE THE NEXT 20 YEARS IN JAIL TO FIGURE OUT WHAT HAPPENED TO THE EXTRA CLARK KENT... AND HOW THAT STUFF GOT BACK IN THE TRUNK! HA, HA!

BUT I STILL HAVE TROUBLES! I KNOW THAT I'M CLARK KENT... BUT MY MEMORY IS STILL A BLANK! HOW CAN I FIX THAT?
HMM...AN OLD FRIEND OF MINE MIGHT HELP ME...IF I CAN FIND HIM! I DON'T REMEMBER HIM, BUT I'VE HEARD PEOPLE SAY WE WERE CLOSE PALS!


LATER, IN THE BATCAVE...
...SO THAT'S THE WHOLE STORY, BATMAN! I USED MY SUPER-VISION TO SPOT THE BATCAVE! THINK YOU CAN HELP ME?
YOU MAY FIND THE CURE IN YOUR FORTRESS OF SOLITUDE!


AT THAT MOMENT, THE MAN OF MIGHT SPOTS SOMETHING AMONG BATMAN'S TROPHIES...
WHAT IS THIS?
SUPERMAN SOUVENIRS
IT'S A CALENDAR FROM THE SQUARE BIZARRO WORLD! THE BIZARROS ARE IMPERFECT DOUBLES OF YOU AND YOUR FRIENDS! THEY DO EVERYTHING BACKWARDS! DON'T YOU REMEMBER?

NO... I DON'T EVEN RECALL WHERE MY FORTRESS IS!
I CAN GIVE YOU DIRECTIONS... I'M ONE OF THE FEW PEOPLE WHO KNOW ITS LOCATION! IN IT IS YOUR SUPER-LAB, WHERE YOU MAY BE ABLE TO CONCOCT A REMEDY FOR YOUR AMNESIA!
LATER, FOLLOWING BATMAN'S DETAILED INSTRUCTIONS, SUPERMAN REACHES THE FORTRESS...
HERE'S THE GIANT KEY! IT WAS DISGUISED AS AN AIRPLANE MARKER, JUST AS BATMAN SAID!
AS THE ACTION ACE WANDERS AMONG HIS TROPHIES AND SOUVENIRS...
I DON'T RECALL ANY OF THIS...
WAIT! THAT BIZARRO CALENDAR I SAW IN THE BATCAVE GIVES ME A GREAT IDEA!
AMNESIUM
BIZARRO AMNESIUM
I VAGUELY RECALL THAT AMNESIUM METAL CAN WIPE OUT THE MEMORY OF NON-SUPER BEINGS!
BUT IF THIS BIZARRO AMNESIUM IS JUST THE OPPOSITE, IT MIGHT AFFECT ME! I'LL EXPOSE MYSELF TO IT...
..AND IF IT WORKS BACKWARDS, BIZARRO-STYLE, IT SHOULD RESTORE MY MEMORY!
YES... I RECALL NOW HOW I WAS WORKING LATE AT THE DAILY PLANET ONE NIGHT, AS CLARK, WRITING UP THE STORY OF A SUPER-COMPUTER I'D BROUGHT FROM ANOTHER DIMENSION...

"...WHEN A SPY CREPT IN AND SLUGGED ME..."

I'LL *PRETEND* I'M KNOCKED OUT! OTHERWISE HE MIGHT GUESS I'M *SUPERMAN!*

'BUT WHILE FALLING, MY ELBOW ACCIDENTALLY PUNCHED A RARE COMBINATION OF PUSHBUTTONS ON THE SUPER-COMPUTER, CAUSING A *RAY* TO STRIKE MY HEAD... OBVIOUSLY, AN *AMNESIA RAY!*"

UH... WHAT'S HAPPENING? MY MIND IS GETTING FUZZY... I DON'T EVEN REMEMBER MY *NAME!*

WHEN THE 'COPTER THAT RAT PUT ME IN CRASHED, MY CLARK KENT CLOTHES WERE BURNED OFF!

BUT NOW, BACK TO THE *PLANET!* I HAVE A GREAT SCOOP TO WRITE... THE STORY OF THOSE SPIES' CAPTURE!

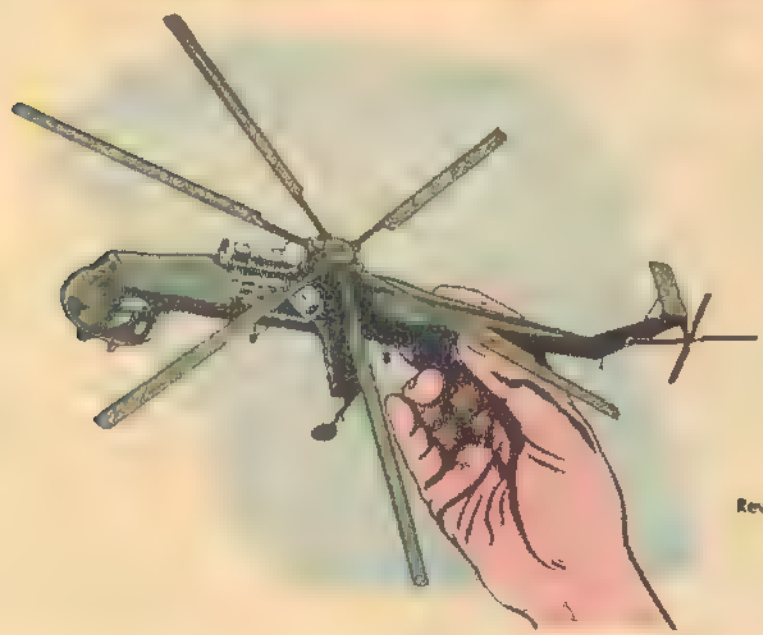
12

AT THE OFFICE, CLARK BECOMES SO WRAPPED UP IN HIS WORK, THAT...

CLARK *CLARK!* I'VE CALLED YOU SIX TIMES! WHAT'S THE MATTER? DON'T YOU KNOW YOUR OWN NAME?

WHAT A QUESTION!

THE END.



Skycrane

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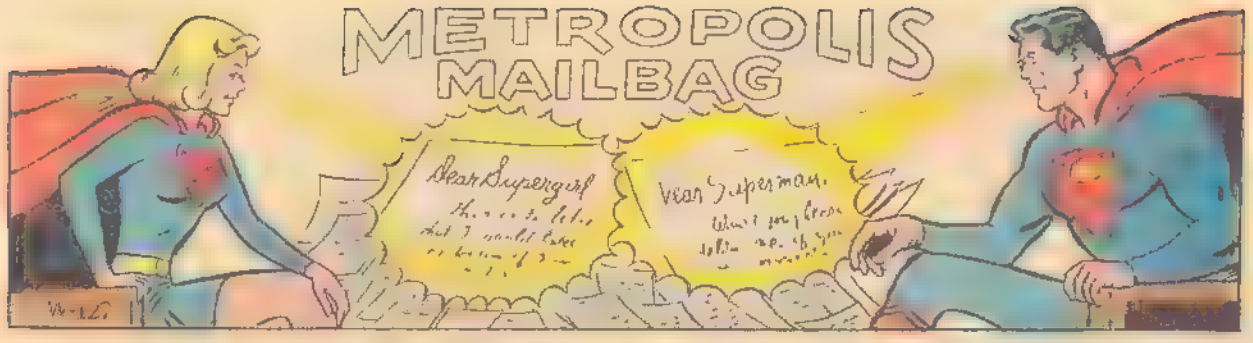
February 1969 · Model of the Month
Sikorsky CH-54A Skycrane



Dear Editor:

ACTION No. 371 was one of the best all-around issues to come along in quite a while, but only because you left obvious (though not fatal) flaws in both stories. (1) "The President of Steel": Superman remembers he is the Man of Steel, but forgets his alter-ego? But his Clark Kent identity is known to Batman and Supergirl, and it's in his Fortress. (2) "The Supergirl Best-Seller": It strains the imagination to think that Supergirl could lose her lawsuit in what was a blatant case of invasion of privacy. You ignored these points for the sake of two good stories—and I'm kinda glad you did. —R. L. Thomas, Capron, Ill.

(First, as we have since pointed out, Superman didn't remember the location of his Fortress, or even who else knew his identity. Second, it's possible Supergirl could have won her case if she'd appealed to a higher court, but that could have taken a long, long time. And, as you note, the main thing is to get a good story.—Ed.)

* * * * * *

Dear Editor:

Lately, Supergirl's strip has run into calm waters—*too* calm! Too often, her adventures of late have been built on the "super-hero-uses-powers-to-teach-bad-person-a-lesson" theme. Please try to get away from this. Bring back the super-villains that forced her to use her head—like Lesla-Lar and Black Flame. Finally, since the main part of Supergirl's life revolves around the college she attends, why not delve into the types of controversy that are going on in colleges nowadays? —Eric Hayden, Fort Wayne, Ind.

(We have some big, big plans in store for Supergirl, which we hope to announce in the next issue. Meantime, the first Black Flame story is reprinted in the latest DC SPECIAL, starring DC's fabulous females. —Ed.)

* * * * * *

Dear Editor:

On page 7 of "The President of Steel," you show Superman blasting out through the top of the Washington Monument. On page 9, he uses super-pressure to force the *stones* at the top of the Monument back together. If I am not mistaken, the very top of the Monument through which Superman broke is made of a solid block of *aluminum.*

—James A. Lumbis, Jr., Anderson, Ind.

(You're right—the capstone is a pure aluminum block. We must have had rocks in our head when we edited the story.—Ed.)

* * * * * *

Dear Editor:

I can say one thing for "Superman's Lost Century." It is the weirdest Superman story I have ever seen. Will Superman ever go through that space-warp into the other universe again? If he does, the years that have passed here would be millions of years according to the time-scheme of that dimension. What state of civilization have the people on that planet achieved? Or are there people there any more? If so, do they have any memory of Sonn (Superman)?

—Leonard Philip Zinna, Brooklyn, N.Y.

(There's food for thought, all right! Superman left a son in that other universe. By now, he could have millions of descendants—or, if the race has been wiped out, none at all!—Ed.)

* * * * * *

Dear Editor:

Sob! I just finished reading the Supergirl story in ACTION No. 371. The death of Supergirl's friend, Morina, when she was a child in Argo City, had me so shook up, I almost took a tranquilizer to calm myself. My tears were flowing so fast, I had to stop reading to dry them. I felt so sorry for Kara (Supergirl) and was mad at that ugly, old maid, Hilda, for bringing up the subject. Anyway, I liked the story and the way Hilda was portrayed. She seemed to be a villainess, but she wasn't really. Those are the kinds of characters I like. You should have more about Supergirl's childhood days in Argo City. That would be cool. -Marty Myrta, Southgate, Mich.

(We'll keep your suggestions in mind, Marty, gal—and we'll consider using them when—but no! We said we'd reveal that in the next issue, and we'll wait till then! -Ed.)

* * * * * *

Dear Editor:

Destroying the Sentinels wasn't Superman's only mistake in No. 369. He says Mt. Kilimanjaro is the highest point on Earth since it is closer to the bulge at the equator than Mt. Everest. Evidently he forgot Mt. Chimborazo, in Ecuador, which at 20,557 feet above sea level, is not only taller than Kilimanjaro by nearly 1,000 feet, but is also 100 miles closer to the equator. —Steve Rettop, Ann Arbor, Mich.

(And isn't it odd that the all-wise Sentinels made the same mountainous *error?—Ed.)*

* * * * * *

Dear Editor:

While I was reading ACTION No. 371, it occurred to me that Superman couldn't ever really be President of the U.S.! He was born on Krypton, and only U.S. citizens are eligible to run for the Presidency.

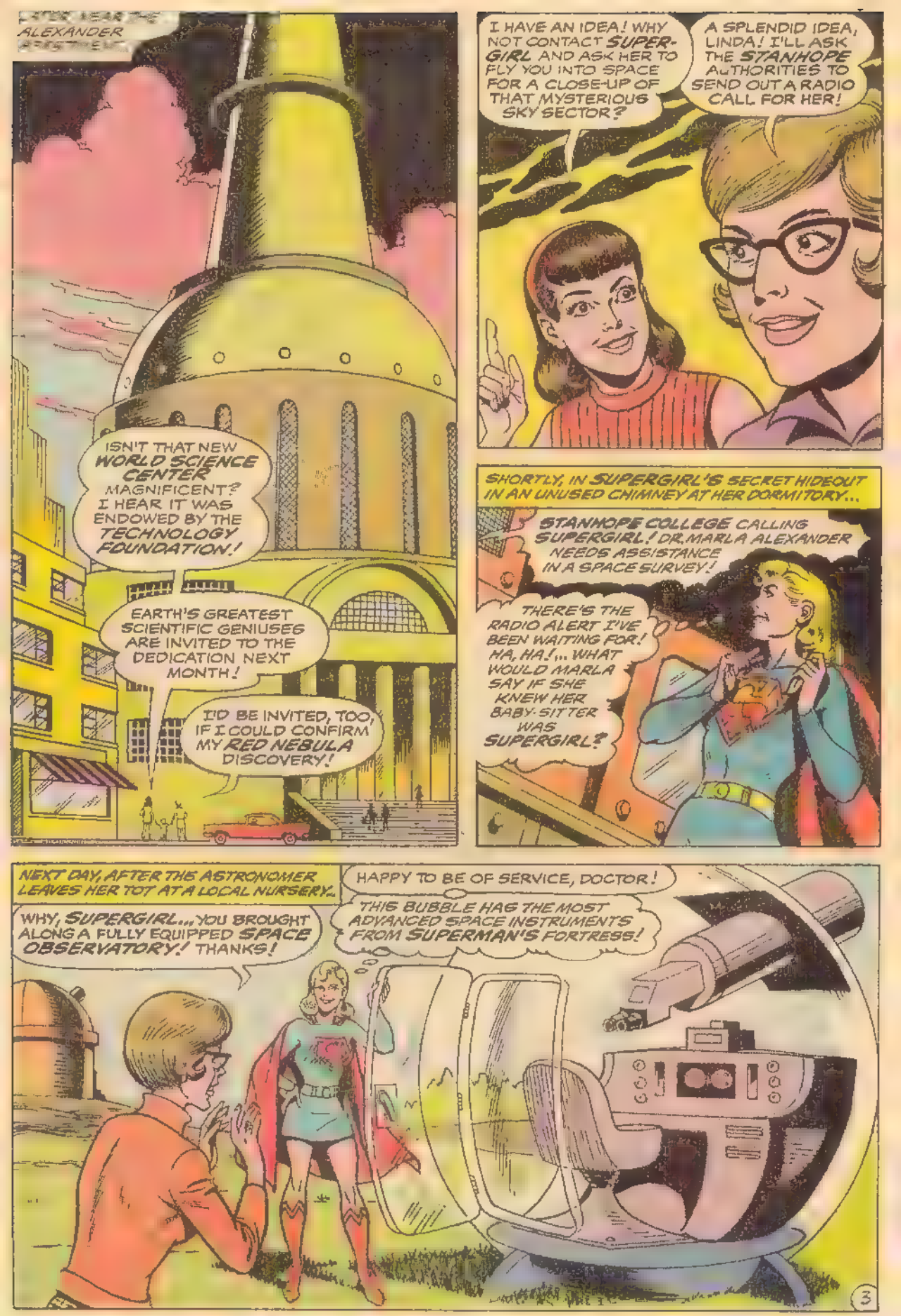
—Mike Wakeland, Webster Groves, Mo.

(But, as this issue's cover clearly shows, Superman had forgotten practically everything about his past—including his origin. That's why he thought he might be the President.—Ed.)

Send all comments, on a postal card, to METROPOLIS MAILBAG, National Periodical Publications, 909 Third Ave., New York, N.Y. 10022. Include Zip Code with your return address.

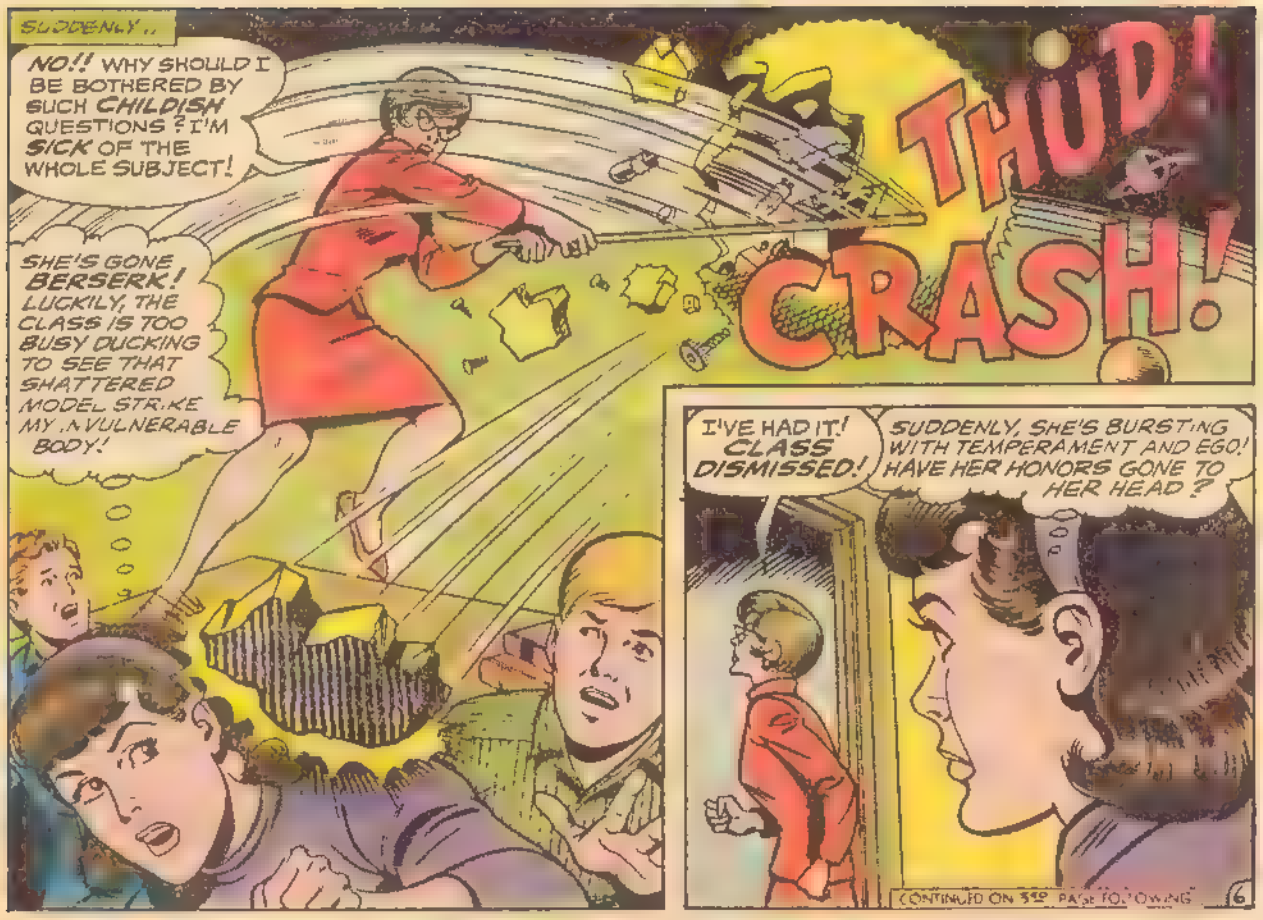
SUPERGIRL
IT STANDS TO REASON THAT ONLY A COOK OR A CRACKPOT COULD HATE SUPERGIRL... RIGHT? YET THIS FAMOUS FEMALE SCIENTIST FITS IN NEITHER CATEGORY. AND EVEN LINDA DANVERS WHO IS THE GIRL OF STEEL, CAN'T FIGURE HOW HER FAVORITE PROFESSOR BECAME... "THE WOMAN WHO HATED SUPERGIRL!"
HOW DARE YOU BRING MY SON A SUPERGIRL TOY, LINDA?
I WISH SUPERGIRL WOULD DROP DEAD!!
N-116
ONE DAY, AT STANHOPE COLLEGE, LINDA (SUPERGIRL) DANVERS BABY-SITS FOR HER ASTRONOMY INSTRUCTOR...
THANKS FOR KEEPING AN EYE ON TONY WHILE I USE THE OBSERVATORY TELESCOPE TO DO SOME RESEARCH, LINDA!
GLAD TO HELP, DR. ALEXANDER!
1
BUT IN A NEARBY PARK, AS LINDA IS BRIEFLY DISTRACTED..
TONY! GET BACK FROM THE BRIDLE PATH!
THOSE RIDERS WON'T SEE HIM IN TIME!...ONLY ONE THING TO DO...

A SEARING FLASH OF LINDA'S HEAT VISION MELTS THE ASPHALT PAVEMENT, AND...
WHINNEY!
SQUUSSH!
THAT SOFTENED ASPHALT IS NOW AS STICKY AS FLY PAPER! IT STOPPED THE HORSES JUST IN TIME!
SILLY HORSIE! HA, HA!
TONY WANT TO PLAY WITH HORSIE!
NO, TONY! WE MUST GET BACK TO YOUR MOMMY!
SOME BABY-SITTER! I HOPE I DIDN'T BETRAY MY SUPER-GIRL IDENTITY WITH THAT HEAT VISION STUNT!
LATER, BACK AT THE OBSERVATORY...
LINDA! I'VE JUST MADE AN EXCITING DISCOVERY... A GIANT RED NEBULA SHAPED LIKE A HAND!
THAT MYSTERIOUS NEBULA SEEMS TO BE ENGULFING EVERY STAR IN ITS SKY SECTOR!
BUT MY TELESCOPE AND CAMERA AREN'T POWERFUL ENOUGH TO GET ALL THE DETAILS!
LINDA, IF I COULD VERIFY THAT WEIRD RED-HAND NEBULA, IT MIGHT WIN ME AN ASTRONOMY PROFESSOR-SHIP! HEAVEN KNOWS I COULD USE THE PROMOTION!
POOR DR. ALEXANDER! SHE'S HAD IT ROUGH SINCE HER HUSBAND WAS KILLED IN VIETNAM!


LATER NEAR THE ALEXANDER OBSERVATORY...
ISN'T THAT NEW WORLD SCIENCE CENTER MAGNIFICENT? I HEAR IT WAS ENDOWED BY THE TECHNOLOGY FOUNDATION!
EARTH'S GREATEST SCIENTIFIC GENIUSES ARE INVITED TO THE DEDICATION NEXT MONTH!
I'D BE INVITED, TOO, IF I COULD CONFIRM MY RED NEBULA DISCOVERY!
I HAVE AN IDEA! WHY NOT CONTACT SUPERGIRL AND ASK HER TO FLY YOU INTO SPACE FOR A CLOSE-UP OF THAT MYSTERIOUS SKY SECTOR?
A SPLENDID IDEA, LINDA! I'LL ASK THE STANHOPE AUTHORITIES TO SEND OUT A RADIO CALL FOR HER!
SHORTLY, IN SUPERGIRL'S SECRET HIDEOUT IN AN UNUSED CHIMNEY AT HER DORMITORY...
STANHOPE COLLEGE CALLING SUPERGIRL! DR. MARLA ALEXANDER NEEDS ASSISTANCE IN A SPACE SURVEY!
THERE'S THE RADIO ALERT I'VE BEEN WAITING FOR! HA, HA!... WHAT WOULD MARLA SAY IF SHE KNEW HER BABY-SITTER WAS SUPERGIRL?
NEXT DAY, AFTER THE ASTRONOMER LEAVES HER TOT AT A LOCAL NURSERY...
WHY, SUPERGIRL... YOU BROUGHT ALONG A FULLY EQUIPPED SPACE OBSERVATORY! THANKS!
HAPPY TO BE OF SERVICE, DOCTOR!
THIS BUBBLE HAS THE MOST ADVANCED SPACE INSTRUMENTS FROM SUPERMAN'S FORTRESS!
3

PRESENTLY... AS THEY HURTLE UPWARD...
FANTASTIC! NOT EVEN THE MIGHTIEST ROCKET ENGINE COULD MATCH THE VELOCITY OF SUPERGIRL'S FLIGHT!
THEN, FAR ACROSS THE DEEPS OF SPACE..
THERE IT IS... THE WEIRD, CLAW-LIKE NEBULA I DETECTED! WHAT A THRILL TO SEE IT THIS CLOSE UP!
AS SUPERGIRL ORBITS THE WEIRD PHENOMENON...
MARLA WAS RIGHT! THAT STRANGE SPACE CLOUD SEEMS TO BE REACHING OUT OVER THIS ENTIRE SKY SECTOR!
HER ON-THE-SPOT PHOTOS OF THIS DISCOVERY WILL MAKE HER EARTH'S MOST FAMOUS ASTRONOMER!
BUT IN THE NEXT MOMENT...
WAIT--THERE'S SOMETHING ELSE THAT'S ODD...
EEEYAH! A SUDDEN FLARE OF LIGHT!
THAT BLAZE OF BRILLIANCE PROBABLY CAME FROM A NEARBY STAR-SUN! MARLA SEEMS OKAY NOW!
BUT I'D BETTER FLY HER BACK TO EARTH! THIS SKY AREA MAY BE DANGEROUS!
4

BACK AT HOME, A FACULTY COMMITTEE GREETS THE EXPEDITION...
A SPLENDID ACHIEVEMENT, DR. ALEXANDER! IF YOUR FINDINGS ABOUT THE RED NEBULA ARE CONFIRMED, YOUR NAME WILL GO DOWN IN HISTORY!
I COULDN'T HAVE DONE IT WITHOUT SUPERGIRL!
DAYS LATER, AS LINDA HEADS FOR THE STANHOPE AUDITORIUM...
IT'S THE BREAK SHE WAS HOPING FOR! I'M GLAD I WAS ABLE TO HELP HER AS SUPERGIRL!
DAILY PLANET
DR. ALEXANDER APPOINTED PROFESSOR
RECEIVES $5,000 SCIENCE AWARD TODAY!
AT THE AWARD CEREMONIES...
AND NOW PROFESSOR ALEXANDER WILL READ HER REPORT ON THE FABULOUS RED NEBULA!
ER... I DROPPED MY GLASSES!
THE POOR THING! SHE'S NERVOUS AS A CAT!
BUT SHORTLY...
PLEASE, PROFESSOR... THE NATION IS WAITING TO HEAR YOUR ADDRESS!
LET THEM WAIT! MOST PEOPLE WOULDN'T UNDERSTAND MY ASTRONOMICAL THEORIES, ANYWAY!
IT ISN'T LIKE HER TO ACT SO RUDE AND CONCEITED! WHAT'S GOTTEN INTO HER?
DAYS LATER, IN A CLASS ON ASTRONAUTICS...
PROFESSOR, COULD YOU DEMONSTRATE THE TRAJECTORY OF A SATELLITE FROM EARTH ORBITING THROUGH THE RINGS OF SATURN?
THIS IS THE FIRST TIME THEY'VE USED THE ANTI-GRAV MODEL OF THE SOLAR SYSTEM WHICH I DONATED TO STANHOPE AS SUPERGIRL!
CERTAINLY... I...


SUDDENLY...
NO!! WHY SHOULD I BE BOTHERED BY SUCH CHILDISH QUESTIONS? I'M SICK OF THE WHOLE SUBJECT!
SHE'S GONE BERSERK! LUCKILY, THE CLASS IS TOO BUSY DUCKING TO SEE THAT SHATTERED MODEL STRIKE MY INVULNERABLE BODY!
THUD!
CRASH!
I'VE HAD IT! CLASS DISMISSED!
SUDDENLY, SHE'S BURSTING WITH TEMPERAMENT AND EGO! HAVE HER HONORS GONE TO HER HEAD?
CONTINUED ON 35¢ PAGE FOLLOWING
6

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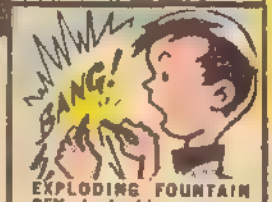

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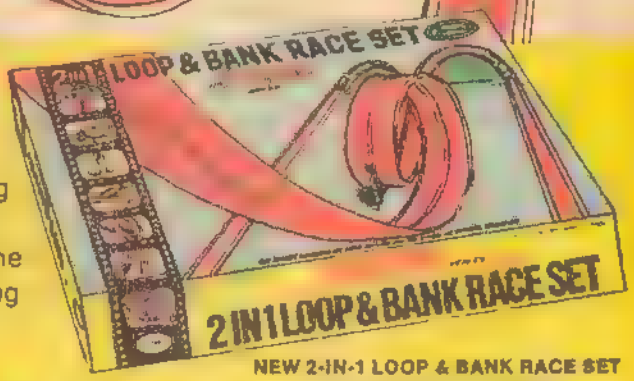
UP
R-RR
LATER
OLLIE, WHEN YOU'RE THROUGH WITH THE DEMONSTRATION, GO OVER TO "SPORTING GOODS" FOR A WHILE!
I'D LIKE TO SEE A SET OF BOXING GLOVES !
SPORTS
THESE LOOK GREAT ! MIND IF I TRY THEM OUT ?
OLLIE, WE DON'T GIVE DEMONSTRATIONS IN THIS DEPARTMENT !
3089
END.

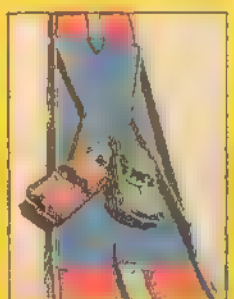
Stay right where you are. Your Speedline cars will be back in a second.

Flip the speed starter and they're off—down, down, and away—through the super-looper—around the high banked curves—and back home again in nothing flat. That's the big thing about this new set—the return feature. The cars do all the work; all you do is get in a lot more racing miles per hour. It's another sensational Speedline race set by Aurora!



NEW 2-IN-1 LOOP & BANK RACE SET WITH COMEBACK TRACK.

MAKO SHARK. Just one of 23 Speedline cars—the fastest HO collector cars ever made



CRISS-CROSS. Danger ahead! This 2-lane chicane lets only one car thru at a time!

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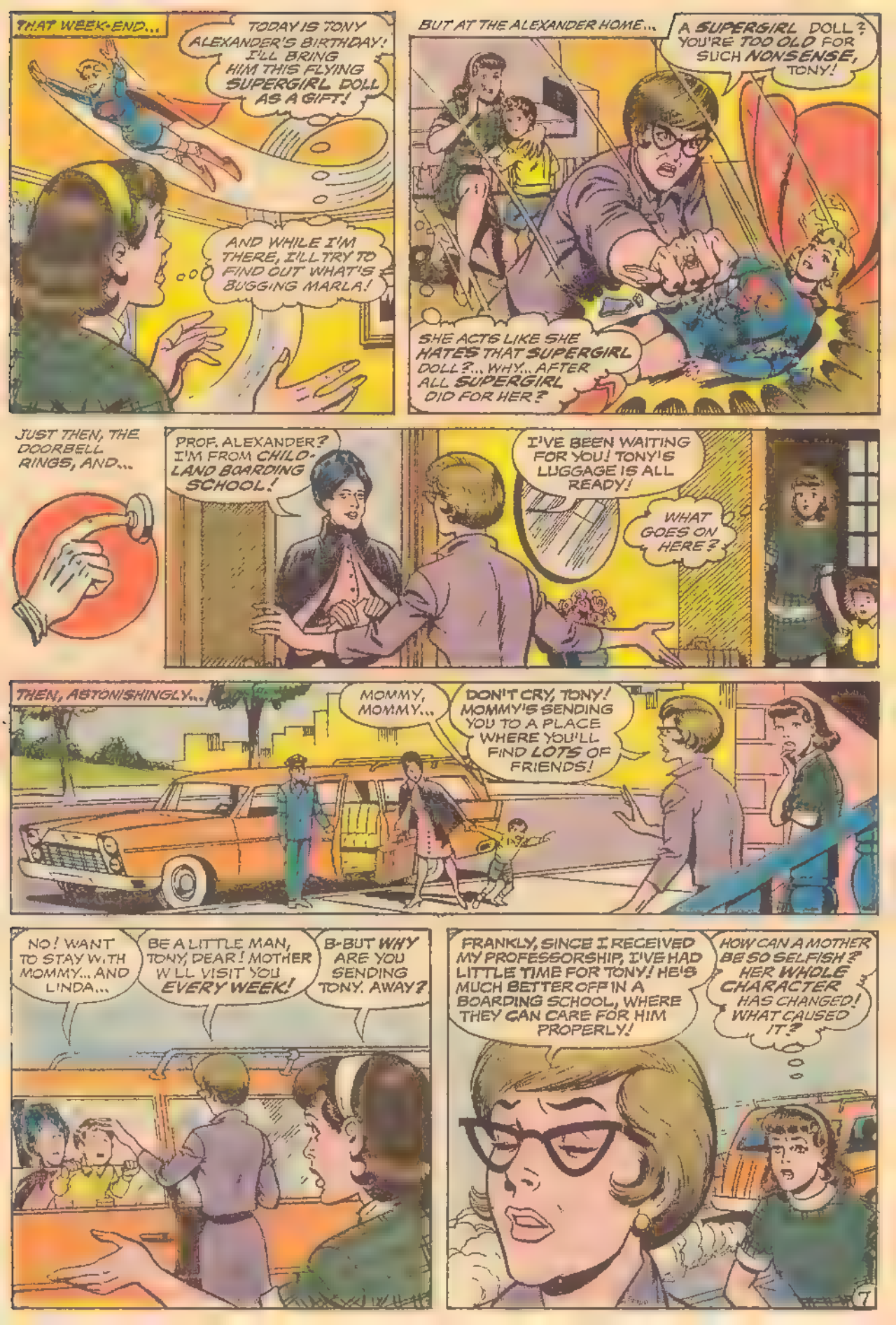
THAT WEEK-END...
TODAY IS TONY ALEXANDER'S BIRTHDAY! I'LL BRING HIM THIS FLYING SUPERGIRL DOLL AS A GIFT!
AND WHILE I'M THERE, I'LL TRY TO FIND OUT WHAT'S BUGGING MARLA!
BUT AT THE ALEXANDER HOME...
A SUPERGIRL DOLL? YOU'RE TOO OLD FOR SUCH NONSENSE, TONY!
SHE ACTS LIKE SHE HATES THAT SUPERGIRL DOLL?... WHY... AFTER ALL SUPERGIRL DID FOR HER?
JUST THEN, THE DOORBELL RINGS, AND...
PROF. ALEXANDER? I'M FROM CHILO-LAND BOARDING SCHOOL!
I'VE BEEN WAITING FOR YOU! TONY'S LUGGAGE IS ALL READY!
WHAT GOES ON HERE?
THEN, ASTONISHINGLY...
MOMMY, MOMMY...
DON'T CRY, TONY! MOMMY'S SENDING YOU TO A PLACE WHERE YOU'LL FIND LOTS OF FRIENDS!
NO! I WANT TO STAY WITH MOMMY... AND LINDA...
BE A LITTLE MAN, TONY, DEAR! MOTHER WILL VISIT YOU EVERY WEEK!
B-BUT WHY ARE YOU SENDING TONY AWAY?
FRANKLY, SINCE I RECEIVED MY PROFESSORSHIP, I'VE HAD LITTLE TIME FOR TONY! HE'S MUCH BETTER OFF IN A BOARDING SCHOOL, WHERE THEY CAN CARE FOR HIM PROPERLY!
HOW CAN A MOTHER BE SO SELFISH? HER WHOLE CHARACTER HAS CHANGED! WHAT CAUSED IT?
7

BUT THE CHANGE IN THE PROFESSOR CONTINUES...
MY ASTRONOMICAL OBSERVATIONS KEEP ME MUCH TOO BUSY TO ATTEND CLASS! SO I'VE TAPED THE REST OF THIS TERM'S LECTURES ON THIS RECORDER!
WHAT?
SHE ACTS LIKE A COMPLETELY DIFFERENT PERSON! I DON'T GET IT!
EARTH'S SUN IS ABOUT 8,200 PARSECS FROM THE CENTER OF THE MILKY WAY GALAXY! SINCE A PARSEC EQUALS 19.2 TRILLION MILES...
IT'S LIKE BEING LECTURED BY A ROBOT! THAT PROF. REALLY BURNS ME UP!
OH-OH! THE KIDS ARE REALLY BOILING!
SOON, THE CAMPUS ERUPTS IN PROTEST!
FELLOW STUDENTS! THE PRESIDENT OF STANHOPE HAS AGREED TO TRY PROF. ALEXANDER FOR MISCONDUCT... SHE MIGHT EVEN BE FIRED!
PROF ALEXANDER
STUDENTS DEMAND RESPECT
AXE ALEXANDER
BOUNCE PROF ALEXANDER
SEND MARLA TO THE MOON
BUT THEY CAN'T DO THAT, JUST WHEN SHE'S REACHED THE PEAK OF HER CAREER!... I'LL ATTEND THE TRIAL AS SUPERGIRL, AND SPEAK UP FOR HER!
DAYS LATER, AS THE HEARING BEGINS..
THEN YOU DON'T DENY DESTROYING THAT SOLAR SYSTEM MODEL... AND LECTURING YOUR CLASS THROUGH A TAPE-RECORDER?
DENY IT? WHY SHOULD I? AS PROFESSOR, I'LL RUN MY CLASSES ANY WAY I PLEASE!
SUCH ARROGANCE WILL GET YOU NOWHERE... EXCEPT ON THE UNEMPLOYMENT LINE! YOUR PROFESSIONAL REPUTATION IS AT STAKE!
YOU CAN'T HURT MY REPUTATION! AS ONE OF EARTH'S TOP SCIENTISTS, I'VE BEEN PICKED BY THE TECHNOLOGY FOUNDATION TO ATTEND THE DED.CATION OF THE WORLD SCIENCE CENTER!
SNAP
CONTINUED ON 2ND PAGE FOLLOWING
8

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"POSITIVELY ASTONISHING"

SAY PEOPLE WHO HAVE SEEN THIS COLLECTION. YOU'LL BE PLUCKING COINS FROM THIN AIR! YOU'LL CAUSE CARDS TO CHANGE THEIR SPOTS AT YOUR COMMAND! YOU'LL HEAR THE GASPS OF WONDER AS YOU DO THE WORLD-FAMOUS "INDIAN ROPE TRICK." YOU'LL ACTUALLY DO OVER **238** BAFFLING TRICKS, INCLUDING:

- THE VANISHING BALL
- THE MIND READING TRICK
- THE SECRET of NUMBER 9
- PHANTOM WRITING
- GROWING MONEY TRICK
- THE COIN LEAPING TRICK
- DISAPPEARING HANDKERCHIEF
- THE KNOT THAT UNTIES ITSELF
- THE DISAPPEARING COIN
- MAKING A BALL ROLL BY ITSELF
- MIRACLE CARD JUMPING TRICK
- THE PHANTOM MONEY TRICK, etc.

ANYONE... 6 TO 60... CAN PERFORM THESE FEATS OF MAGIC... ONCE YOU KNOW THEIR SECRETS!

COMPLETE SECRETS REVEALED!

EVERY SINGLE TRICK FULLY EXPLAINED! YOU SAW SOME OF THEM ON TV. MANY WERE PERFORMED BY SUCH MASTER MAGICIANS AS **HOUDINI, THURSTON,** etc. AND NOW... **YOU** CAN DO ALL OF THESE FAMOUS MAGIC TRICKS. THEY'RE FUN!

MAIL TODAY

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RUSH ME MY MAGIC TRICKS FOR WHICH I HAVE ENCLOSED 50¢.

Send me 3 for only $1.00 (check here) ☐

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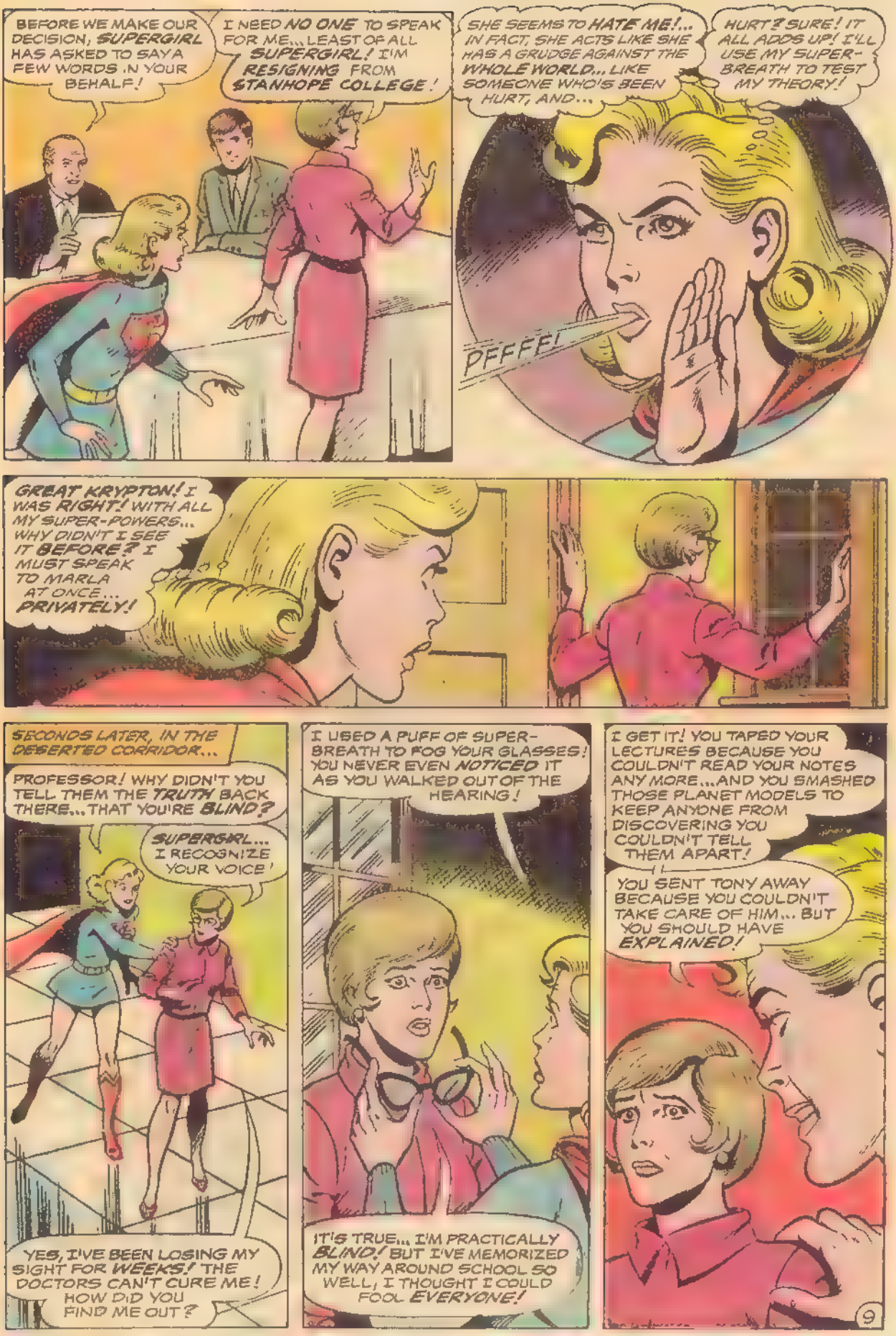
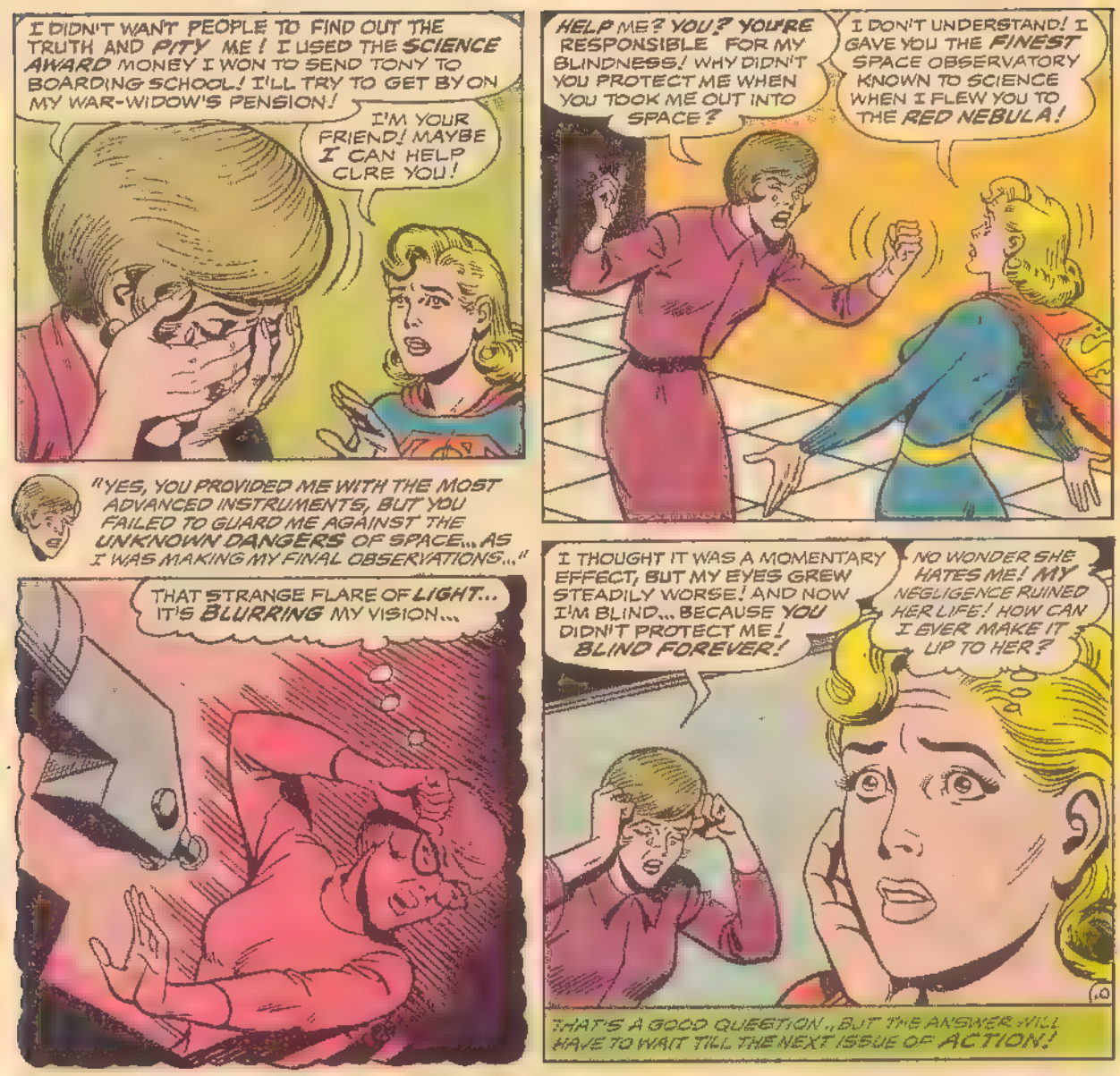

BEFORE WE MAKE OUR DECISION, SUPERGIRL HAS ASKED TO SAY A FEW WORDS IN YOUR BEHALF!
I NEED NO ONE TO SPEAK FOR ME... LEAST OF ALL SUPERGIRL! I'M RESIGNING FROM STANHOPE COLLEGE!
SHE SEEMS TO HATE ME!... IN FACT, SHE ACTS LIKE SHE HAS A GRUDGE AGAINST THE WHOLE WORLD... LIKE SOMEONE WHO'S BEEN HURT, AND...
HURT? SURE! IT ALL ADDS UP! I'LL USE MY SUPER-BREATH TO TEST MY THEORY!
PFFFF!
GREAT KRYPTON! I WAS RIGHT! WITH ALL MY SUPER-POWERS... WHY DIDN'T I SEE IT BEFORE? I MUST SPEAK TO MARLA AT ONCE... PRIVATELY!
SECONDS LATER, IN THE DESERTED CORRIDOR...
PROFESSOR! WHY DIDN'T YOU TELL THEM THE TRUTH BACK THERE... THAT YOU'RE BLIND?
SUPERGIRL... I RECOGNIZE YOUR VOICE!
YES, I'VE BEEN LOSING MY SIGHT FOR WEEKS! THE DOCTORS CAN'T CURE ME! HOW DID YOU FIND ME OUT?
I USED A PUFF OF SUPER-BREATH TO FOG YOUR GLASSES! YOU NEVER EVEN NOTICED IT AS YOU WALKED OUT OF THE HEARING!
IT'S TRUE... I'M PRACTICALLY BLIND! BUT I'VE MEMORIZED MY WAY AROUND SCHOOL SO WELL, I THOUGHT I COULD FOOL EVERYONE!
I GET IT! YOU TAPED YOUR LECTURES BECAUSE YOU COULDN'T READ YOUR NOTES ANY MORE... AND YOU SMASHED THOSE PLANET MODELS TO KEEP ANYONE FROM DISCOVERING YOU COULDN'T TELL THEM APART!
YOU SENT TONY AWAY BECAUSE YOU COULDN'T TAKE CARE OF HIM... BUT YOU SHOULD HAVE EXPLAINED!
9


I DIDN'T WANT PEOPLE TO FIND OUT THE TRUTH AND PITY ME! I USED THE SCIENCE AWARD MONEY I WON TO SEND TONY TO BOARDING SCHOOL! I'LL TRY TO GET BY ON MY WAR-WIDOW'S PENSION!
I'M YOUR FRIEND! MAYBE I CAN HELP CURE YOU!
HELP ME? YOU? YOU'RE RESPONSIBLE FOR MY BLINDNESS! WHY DIDN'T YOU PROTECT ME WHEN YOU TOOK ME OUT INTO SPACE?
I DON'T UNDERSTAND! I GAVE YOU THE FINEST SPACE OBSERVATORY KNOWN TO SCIENCE WHEN I FLEW YOU TO THE RED NEBULA!
"YES, YOU PROVIDED ME WITH THE MOST ADVANCED INSTRUMENTS, BUT YOU FAILED TO GUARD ME AGAINST THE UNKNOWN DANGERS OF SPACE... AS I WAS MAKING MY FINAL OBSERVATIONS..."
THAT STRANGE FLARE OF LIGHT... IT'S BLURRING MY VISION...
I THOUGHT IT WAS A MOMENTARY EFFECT, BUT MY EYES GREW STEADILY WORSE! AND NOW I'M BLIND... BECAUSE YOU DIDN'T PROTECT ME! BLIND FOREVER!
NO WONDER SHE HATES ME! MY NEGLIGENCE RUINED HER LIFE! HOW CAN I EVER MAKE IT UP TO HER?
THAT'S A GOOD QUESTION... BUT THE ANSWER WILL HAVE TO WAIT TILL THE NEXT ISSUE OF ACTION!

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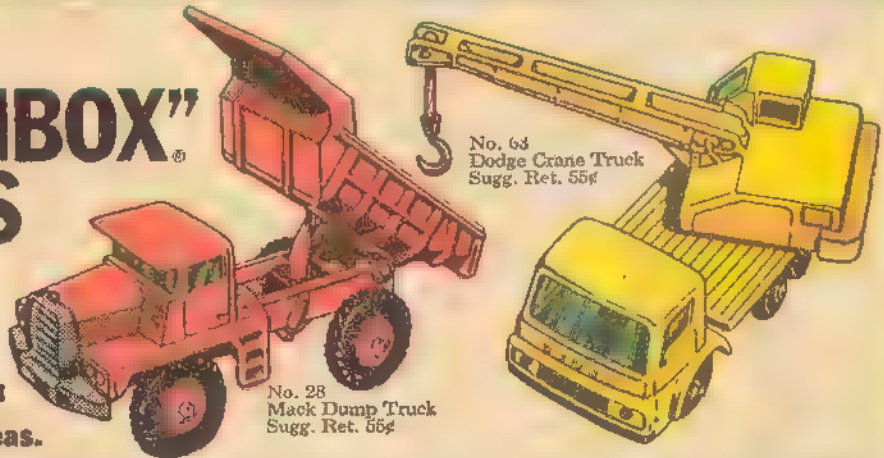

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BATMAN AND
NO ONE LAYS A HAND ON MY SON WHILE I LIVE!
PUNISH
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FACT FILE #6

SARGON, THE SORCERER first appeared in All-American Comics No. 26 (May, 1941) through No. 50 (June, 1943). He next appeared in Comic Cavalcade No. 3 (Summer, 1943) through No. 6 (Summer, 1944). From there he moved into a short stay in Sensation Comics from issue No. 34 (Oct., 1944) through No. 36 (Dec., 1944). The next two appearances were one-shots in All-American Comics No. 70 (Jan.—Feb., 1946) and Comic Cavalcade No. 14 (Apr. —May, 1946). At the same time, the feature began to appear regularly once again in Sensation Comics, starting in issue No. 52 (Apr., 1946) and lasting thru issue No. 83 (Nov., 1948), missing only issue, No. 78. The Sorcerer's farewell appearance was as a one-shot feature in issue No. 37 (Mar.—Apr., 1949) of the Golden Age Green Lantern's magazine. The only cover appearance Sargon made was on the cover of the 1944 Big All-American Comic Book one-shot, in which no story of his appeared.

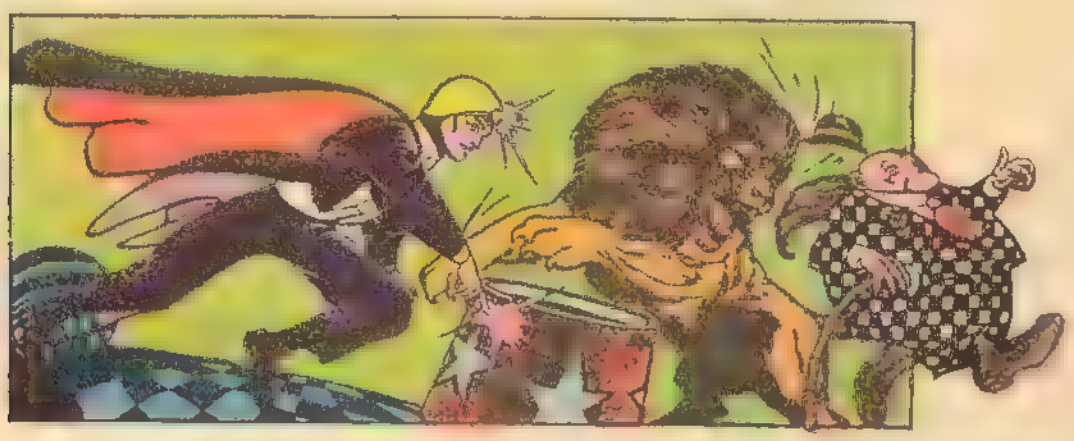
. In a way, there were really two different Sargon, The Sorcerer strips during the Golden Age Of Comics, although both featured the same character. The original series of Sargon tales appeared during the years 1941 through 1944. In this first series of stories, Sargon primarily used his mystic powers, often in secret, to combat ordinary, run-of-the-mill hoodlums and crimes. The strip was stopped for a year and then was revived, given a "new look" storyline. The second series was handled with more emphasis on the fantastic and with more humor.

How Sargon gained his magical powers was explained in All-American Comics No. 26. In 1917, the noted archaeologist, Richard Biddle Sargent, uncovered the fabled Ruby Of Life, whose 4000 year old history was shrouded in mystic legend. Returning to the U.S. with the results of his excavation, the archaeologist gave the Ruby to his wife as a gift. As the years passed, the Sargents had a son whom they named John. Although his parents did not know it at the time, Fate was to favor young John Sargent by conspiring to make the Ruby Of Life, now worn as a pendant by John's mother, the first object baby John was to see or touch.

John grew up to follow in his father's archaeological footsteps and, as a young man, managed to find the key to deciphering the cuneiform writing on the objects that were unearthed along with the Ruby Of Life. The translated message explained that if the Ruby Of Life was the first object a baby consciously saw and touched, that baby would have a power over whatever he touched during his life. Remembering that, as a child, the jewel had always fascinated him, he held the Ruby in his hand and, following the translated instructions, recited a special incantation over it. He soon discovered that anything he touched, people, animals, even inanimate objects, were compelled to obey his spoken commands. Deciding to use these newfound powers for good, John Sargent took the cover identity of a stage magician to disguise his true abilities of legerdemain. He took the name of Sargon, a priest-king of the ancient people who first discovered the mystic properties of the Ruby Of Life. Thus magically armed, Sargon fought crime; secretly at first, but eventually openly as his fame spread.

The turning point in the strip came in All-American Comics No. 70, when Maximillian O'Leary, Sargon's assistant and self-appointed manager, was introduced to the series. The round, cartoonishly-drawn Max was obviously added for comic relief. However, whereas many a comical relief character was often inane and soon became more of a hinderance to a strip than a help, somehow Max worked! Perhaps it was just that Sargon had always needed someone who constantly needed his magical aid, or perhaps it was only Max's simple, good-natured, innocent character and willingness to help anyone in trouble that turned an average strip into a lively and interesting feature.

There were one or two other changes made in the strip, including several changes of writers and artist, and the addition of a regular villainess—Blue Lama, The Queen Of Black Magic—but even all this revamping wasn't enough to save the six-page feature from the eventual comic book limbo that became the fate of so many secondary characters during the closing years of 1940's.



Sargon, The Sorcerer returns from comic book limbo in issue No. 186 of The Flash

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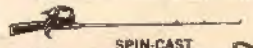

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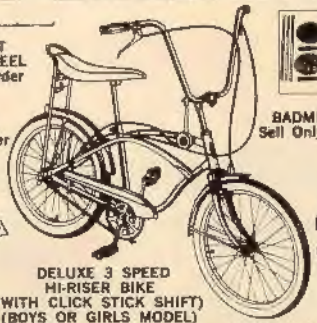

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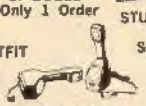

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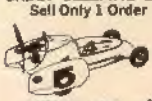

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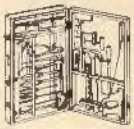

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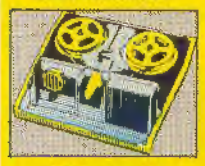
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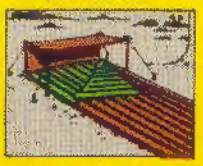
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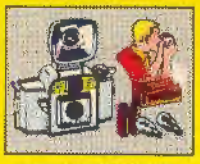
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